

Introduced by Senator Vargas

February 16, 2011

An act to repeal Section 13305 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 441, as introduced, Vargas. Elections: contributions.

Existing law permits the county central committee of each qualified political party to supply county elections officials with party contribution envelopes or letters, as specified, to be included with the mailing of the sample ballot to each of the registered voters who indicated the same political party affiliation.

This bill would repeal these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13305 of the Elections Code is repealed.
2 ~~13305. (a) In each county, the county central committee of~~
3 ~~each qualified political party may supply to its county elections~~
4 ~~official, not less than 83 days prior to the direct primary election,~~
5 ~~a party contributor envelope or a one-page letter, in which both~~
6 ~~sides may be utilized, to be included in the mailing of the sample~~
7 ~~ballot to each of the registered voters in the county who have~~
8 ~~disclosed a preference for that same party on the voter's affidavit~~
9 ~~of registration. In lieu of supplying the elections official with a~~
10 ~~sufficient number of copies of the one-page letter, a county central~~
11 ~~committee may supply the elections official, not less than 83 days~~

1 before the direct primary election, with the text of the letter and
2 request the elections official to print, or cause to be printed, a
3 sufficient number of copies of the letter to accommodate the
4 mailing. The elections official shall notify the respective county
5 committee of, and the committee shall reimburse the county for,
6 any actual costs incurred by the inclusion or printing, or both. The
7 elections official may, prior to acting pursuant to this subdivision,
8 require the county committee to post a bond to ensure the
9 reimbursement.

10 (b) Each envelope or letter shall contain a space for the name
11 and address of the contributor, and shall contain language which
12 informs the contributor of the manner in which the money received
13 shall be spent. The language on the envelope or letter shall not
14 contain words critical of any other political party.

15 (c) All funds received by the return of the party contributor
16 envelopes or in response to the letters shall be kept separate from
17 all other funds and shall be kept in a fund (account) to be
18 established in each county. Any funds which are prohibited under
19 federal law from being used for candidates for federal office shall
20 be further segregated and any portion allocated to candidates shall
21 be disbursed only to candidates for state office.